



## Sustainable Subsistence ATV Trail Hooper Bay, AK

**Project Description:** The National Park Service assisted the remote community of Hooper Bay, a town of 1,200 residents in southwest Alaska, to create a modern solution that allows them to continue their subsistence traditions. The NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program provided technical assistance to the community for the development of sustainable trails that would allow for all terrain vehicles but still protect the fragile tundra. Village residents have been using all terrain vehicles for years to access areas for hunting, fishing, digging clams and berry picking but the ATV's were causing extensive resource damage to the wet, boggy terrain. NPS technical assistance produced a trail 3.5 miles of trail to date, with another mile planned for construction in summer 2011 utilizing rigid recycled plastic grids. This design has successfully been used to construct re-planned in future years.

*"Thank you very much for a good project and one that benefits the birds and the land. We look forward to working with you on future projects." RJ Murran, Sea Lion Corporation Board member.*

**RTCA Role:** RTCA assisted with the development of a geoblock trail maintenance manual, the installation of new on-the-ground geoblock design as approved by the NRCS, as well as the identification of additional partners or funding sources to help complete the trail project. RTCA also worked with partners to develop an ATV ethics and stewardship program highlighting Yup'ik preservation values and directed at subsistence hunting and gathering trail use; identify and solicit input from other individuals/organizations that could contribute expertise to the effort; review materials produced for the program; and identify potential funding sources for development and implementation of the program.

**RTCA Contact:** Lisa Holzapfel, Heather Rice

**Partners:** Sea Lion Corporation, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service RC&D Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Native Village of Hooper Bay, Sea Lion Corporation, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Native Village of Hooper Bay, City of Hooper Bay

**Award Notation:** Winner of a 2008 U.S. Department of the Interior Cooperative Conservation Award